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LETTER DATED 11 MARCH 1996 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter from His Excellency Mr. Paul Biya, President of the Republic of Cameroon, replying to your letter of 29 February 1996 concerning Cameroon's dispute with Nigeria over the Bakassi Peninsula.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Jean-Marc MPAY
Minister Plenipotentiary and
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex

Letter dated 7 March 1996 from the President of the Republic of Cameroon addressed to the President of the Security Council

In your letter of 29 February 1996, you were kind enough to inform me of the position adopted by the members of the Security Council with regard to recent developments in the dispute between my country, Cameroon, and Nigeria over the Bakassi Peninsula.

The members of the Council request the parties, inter alia, to respect the cease-fire which they negotiated on 17 February in Kara, Togo, and to refrain from any further acts of violence. They further request them to take the necessary measures to withdraw their forces to the positions they occupied before the International Court of Justice was informed of the dispute.

I welcome this decision by the Security Council, the only possible guarantor of peace and security in the region, while awaiting the judgement of the International Court of Justice. I take this opportunity to reaffirm the determination of Cameroon to make every effort to settle this dispute by peaceful means, specifically by having recourse to the International Court of Justice, in full respect for the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

Cameroon equally reaffirms its endorsement of the principle of the intangibility of frontiers inherited from the colonial era, as confirmed by the Organization of African Unity (OAU).

Cameroon therefore fully subscribes to the position taken by the Security Council, and welcomes the immediate dispatch of a mission of inquiry to Bakassi by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, assuring you in advance of our complete cooperation.

(Signed) Paul BIYA